



Sheriff Troy J. Knudson
ROCK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
Barbara J. Tillman, Chief Deputy



Erik D. Chellevoid
Commander, Law Enforcement Services

Craig L. Strouse
Commander, Correctional Services

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: 03/14/19
CASE: SO1914481

Contact Person

Captain Jude Maurer
(608) 757-7944

Evansville Man Arrested for 7th Offense OWI after Single Vehicle Crash

On 03/14/19 at 12:06 a.m. Rock County Sheriff's Deputies were dispatched to a single vehicle traffic crash that occurred on South State Highway 213 by West Lang Road just north of Orfordville in Spring Valley Township. The investigation revealed a van driven by Robert L. Zapata, 54 from Evansville, WI, was traveling north on South State Highway 213 and struck a large tree branch that had broken off of a tree and pulled down power lines and broke the power pole. The power lines were down across the road, so traffic was diverted until the scene was cleared at 1:45 a.m. Zapata was not injured, but deputies had reason to believe he was under the influence of alcohol. Zapata performed field sobriety tests and was subsequently arrested for operating while intoxicated. Zapata had six prior OWI convictions, making this his seventh offense, a felony in Wisconsin. Zapata consented to a blood draw at the Rock County Jail and will be held in jail pending an initial court appearance.

Pursuant to the directive of the Wisconsin Supreme Court, as found in Supreme Court Rule 20:3.6, Trial Publicity, you are advised that a charge is merely an accusation and that a defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.



Robert L. Zapata

Troy J. Knudson
SHERIFF

By: Sergeant Pete Falk
2nd Shift Patrol Division

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